

1-13. (CANCELED)

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of forming a cannula comprising the steps of:

assembling a cannula mandrel assembly comprising separable engageable parts including a ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel, at least one nasal prong mandrel, and a mouthpiece mandrel including a fluid passage prong having a first end to connect with the main body mandrel and a retainer prong spaced apart from and extending along the fluid passage prong and having a first end terminating adjacent the main body mandrel;

heating the cannula mandrel assembly to a desired temperature;

providing an uncured cannula forming polymeric material in flowable state;

applying at least one coating of the polymeric material to the cannula mandrel assembly to provide a desired material thickness coating on the cannula mandrel assembly and forming the cannula;

at least partially curing the coating of the polymeric material on the cannula mandrel assembly; and

disassembling the cannula mandrel assembly by withdrawing the at least one prong mandrel, the mouthpiece mandrel including the fluid passage prong and the retainer prong and the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel from the formed cannula, and

introducing a shape retaining material into a retainer passage formed by the retainer prong.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of supporting the at least one nasal prong mandrel by a nasal prong attachment portion of the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel, and supporting the ~~facepiece~~ mouthpiece mandrel by a mouthpiece attachment portion of the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of forming the nasal prong attachment portion in the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel and the mouthpiece attachment portion in the main body mandrel as one of a hole and a recess sized for slidably mating with an attachment end of the nasal prong mandrel and an attachment end of the mouthpiece mandrel.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of slidably engaging an attachment end of the mouthpiece mandrel with the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel. ♦♦

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of assembling the mouthpiece mandrel with the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel such that the mouthpiece mandrel extends radially from and substantially perpendicular to the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel. ♦♦
♦♦

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of assembling the mouthpiece mandrel with the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel such that the mouthpiece mandrel extends radially from and substantially perpendicular to the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel with a planar surface of the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel abutting against a mating planar surface of the mouthpiece mandrel. ♦♦
♦♦
♦♦

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of manufacturing the cannula mandrel assembly from beryllium copper.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of manufacturing the cannula mandrel assembly from beryllium copper.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of applying the polymeric material to the cannula mandrel assembly by a dipping process.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of heating the cannula mandrel assembly at a temperature of from about 350°F to about 550°F prior applying the polymeric material to the cannula mandrel assembly.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step coating the cannula mandrel assembly with a layer of release material prior to applying at least one coating of the polymeric material thereto.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of applying a plurality of coatings of the polymeric material to the cannula mandrel assembly by a plurality of dipping steps.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of partially curing the polymeric material by heating the polymeric material at a temperature of from about 410°F to about 450°F.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of forming a cannula having at least a mouthpiece lumen for one of sampling an expired gas and supplying a desired gas, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) assembling a cannula mandrel assembly, from a plurality of separate parts comprising first and second nasal prong forming mandrels, a facepiece main body forming mandrel and at least one mouthpiece forming mandrel including a fluid passage prong having a first end to connect with the main body mandrel and a retainer prong spaced apart from and extending along the fluid passage prong and having a first end terminating adjacent the main body mandrel, by removably coupling a respective end connection of each of the first and the second nasal prong forming mandrels to the facepiece main body forming mandrel, and removably coupling an end connection of the fluid passage prong of the mouthpiece forming mandrel to the facepiece main body forming mandrel;
- b) heating the cannula mandrel assembly to a desired temperature;
- c) applying a desired thickness of a plastisol of a polymeric material to the heated cannula mandrel assembly;
- d) at least partially curing the applied polymeric material; [[and]]
- e) extracting the first and second nasal prong forming mandrels, the mouthpiece forming mandrel, and the facepiece main body forming mandrel from the at least partially cured polymeric material to form the cannula having at least a mouthpiece lumen for one of sampling an expired gas and supplying a desired gas, and
- f) introducing a shape retaining material into a retainer passage formed by the retainer prong.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of removably coupling the end connection of the mouthpiece

forming mandrel to a central region on one side of the ~~facepiece~~ main body forming mandrel, removably coupling the end connection of the first nasal prong forming mandrel to an opposite side of the ~~facepiece~~ main body forming mandrel spaced apart from the mouthpiece forming mandrel, and removably coupling the end connection of the second nasal prong forming mandrel to the opposite side of the ~~facepiece~~ main body forming mandrel spaced apart from the mouthpiece forming mandrel such that the mouthpiece forming mandrel is located between the first and second prong forming mandrels.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of partially curing the polymeric material using heat from the heated cannula mandrel assembly and further curing of the polymeric material in an oven.









30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of applying the polymeric material by a dipping process.

31. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of forming one of a hole and a recess in the ~~facepiece~~ main body forming mandrel to facilitate removably coupling the respective end connection of each of the first and the second prong forming mandrels and the mouthpiece forming mandrel to the ~~facepiece~~ main body forming mandrel.

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 31, further comprising the step of removably coupling the mouthpiece forming mandrel with the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel such that the mouthpiece mandrel extends radially from and substantially perpendicular to the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel with a planar surface of the ~~facepiece~~ main body mandrel abutting against a mating planar surface of the mouthpiece mandrel.

33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of forming a cannula with a pair of nasal prongs and a mouthpiece lumen ~~[[all]]~~ communicating with a ~~facepiece~~ main body of the cannula, the method comprising the steps of:

constructing a cannula mandrel assembly by attaching ~~a pair of~~ first and second nasal prong forming mandrels to corresponding first and second main body forming mandrel components and attaching a mouthpiece forming mandrel to at least one of the first and second main body forming mandrel components, ~~a facepiece~~






~~forming mandrel to define an interior space of the cannula, the first and the second~~ 
~~main body forming mandrel components being spaced apart to form first and second~~ 
~~main body passages separated by a septum and the mouthpiece forming mandrel~~ 
~~including a fluid passage prong having a first end to connect with the at least one of the~~ 
~~first and second main body mandrel components and a retainer prong spaced apart~~ 
~~from and extending along the fluid passage prong and having a first end terminating~~ 
~~adjacent the at least one of the first and the second main body forming mandrel~~ 
~~components;~~ 



heating the cannula mandrel assembly to a desired temperature;

providing a cannula forming polymeric material as a plastisol;

applying a desired thickness of the plastisol to the heated cannula
mandrel assembly;

curing the plastisol by application of heat; [[and]] 

disengaging the pair of nasal prong forming mandrels and the mouthpiece
forming mandrel from the ~~facepiece~~ main body forming mandrel and extracting the 
~~facepiece~~ main body forming mandrel from the cured plastisol to form the cannula 
having a pair of nasal prongs and a mouthpiece lumen communicating with a ~~facepiece~~ 
main body of the formed cannula for one of sampling an expired gas and supplying a 
desired gas, and 

introducing a shape retaining material into a retainer passage formed by the 
retainer prong. 

34. (CANCELED)